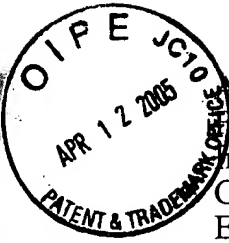


## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Application Serial No. ....09/876,376  
 Filing Date ..... June 6, 2001  
 Inventor..... John R. Douceur et al.  
 Group Art Unit .....2154  
 Examiner .....Hu, Jinsong  
 Attorney's Docket No. .... MS1-769US  
 Confirmation No.....8992  
 Title: Locating Potentially Identical Objects Across Multiple Computers Based On  
 Stochastic Partitioning of Workload

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 24, 2005**

To: Commissioner for Patents  
 PO Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

From: Allan T. Sponseller (Tel. 509-324-9256 x215; Fax 509-323-8979)  
**Customer No. 22801**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of March 24, 2005, in connection with the above-identified application, the following remarks are submitted. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

A detailed listing of the claims is provided below. A status identifier is provided for each claim in a parenthetical expression following each claim number.